

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1877.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
ODDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 2nd June, 1877.

(POLITICAL.)**GENERAL.**

THE *Prince of Wales' Gazette* of the 28th May, in reference to the famous Landhora case, remarks that the way in which this case has been proceeding for the last three years is really very dissatisfactory. Many Government officers have had an opportunity of making a vain show of their authority and power in connection with this case. It is the first of its kind that has happened during the long period of British rule in the country. It is indeed a curious and difficult case, and its decision is no easy task. But if the Viceroy will adopt the plan which we are going to suggest, the case will soon be decided satisfactorily without any great inconvenience. No common man can have the boldness to lay claim to a large estate. Raja Raghubir Singh has been reduced to great distress and misery, but still he has not lost his courage nor given up his claims. His demeanour and mode of con-

versing are also those of a raja. All his relatives have apparently conspired against him. English justice enjoys a world-wide fame. But of late it has been perceptibly retrograding. The plaintiff and the defendant are now ruined and reduced to starvation before they can have justice done them. If justice is not done in the case in question, it will be a standing blot to the fair fame of the English Government. The only satisfactory way to decide this case is to appoint a jury for the purpose. (Here the editor mentions the names of some European and native officials and some native *râises* whom he thinks worthy of being nominated on the jury). The case is no trifling one. It possesses historical importance and will be recorded in the annals of British India. Does the Viceroy know what troubles the wretched Raghubir Singh has experienced at the hands of the Government officers? Nearly thirty thousand prisoners were released and many had their terms of sentence curtailed in honour of the assumption of the imperial title by Her Majesty, but it is really strange that no such indulgence was shown to Raghubir Singh.

Circulation,
212 copies.

A correspondent of the *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 26th May urges the claims of natives to be appointed to high offices in the public service. They have already given a sufficient proof of their intellectual ability by competing successfully with Englishmen in the civil service examinations. But Anglo-Indians through interested motives unreasonably condemn them for incapacity. The Secretary of State should see why Indian officers are unwilling to give effect to the nomination system for the admission of natives of proved ability and merit into the covenanted civil service.

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation,
220 copies.

THE *Safir-i-Hindustan* of the 26th May publishes an article in the form of a dialogue—Sir Thomas Roe and Sardar Surat Singh being represented as the interlocutors—censuring the council of regency at Patiala for its illegal proceed-

ings. The council is accused of dismissing able and faithful Mussalman officers of the State through religious prejudices. The number of such dismissed officers is estimated at two hundred, and the names of some of the most distinguished of them are given. Their dismissal is said to be unaccountable on any other supposition but that of religious prejudices.

The *Panjabi Akhbar* of the 26th May states that a high school has been established by Sir Salar Jang in Haidarabad for the education of the children of sardars and nobility. There is no restriction as to the caste or religion of the students. The sons of Mussalmans, Hindus, and Christians would be all admissible into the school. The school being intended for the sons of the rich, a heavy schooling fee has been fixed. But a curious and perfectly useless rule has been introduced. It is this that the Mussalman and Christian students should dine together at a table in the European fashion, and any one refusing to do so will be expelled from the school. Natives should first acquire the abilities of Europeans, and then afterwards they may try to imitate European customs.

Circulation,
325 copies.

The *Patiala Akhbar* of the 28th May states that the council of regency at Patiala has recently decided on the introduction of certain reforms, such as the construction of roads, sanitary and conservancy arrangements, the erection of some houses out of the city which were very much needed, the preparation of a census, and the introduction of postage and court-fee stamps. The council has also dismissed some public servants who had little or nothing to do.

Circulation,
247 copies.

The *Akhbar-ul-Akhbar* of the 28th May says that in imitation of the English Government some native chiefs also have established legislative councils in their States. But the members are generally men of no ability and education. Most of them can hardly pronounce words correctly or write their names. As regards the native rulers themselves, some of them are minors, some are addicted to drinking, while

Circulation,
137 copies.

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Circulation,
137 copies.

others pass the day in playing billiards, and night in singing and dancing in the company of young and beautiful women.

Circulation,
300 copies.

The *Karnama* of the 28th May says that habitual drinking weakens the intellectual powers, and so far affects reason that a drunkard often commits stupid acts. If any one doubts the truth of our statement, he may just refer to the conduct of Maharaja Hulkar and Maharaja Scindia. Some years ago Maharaja Hulkar committed an unworthy act at Lucknow, and was therefore asked by British officers to leave the place at once. At the late Delhi darbar he called upon the Viceroy one day before the appointed time and had therefore to wait at the door for a few minutes, for which the Viceroy apologised. But he would not be satisfied and the result was that he himself had to ask an apology in writing. Again the attempt of the Muhammadans to collect subscriptions at Gwalior for the relief of the Turkish wounded soldiers provoked the anger of Maharaja Scindia who under the influence of drink fined the donors. The Maharaja has thus shown himself to be one of the most prejudiced chiefs of India.

TURKEY AND THE MUSALMANS OF INDIA.

Circulation,
343 copies.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette* of the 25th May, after quoting the *Pioneer* of the 21st May to the effect that the amount and the nature of the subscriptions collected in India for the aid of the Turks do not express any general and practical sympathy of the Indian Mussalmans for Turkey, remarks that the enthusiastic sympathy felt at the present crisis by the Mussalmans of India for the Turks is a curious phenomenon which cannot be easily conceived. Every Mussalman, be he rich or poor, learned or ignorant, takes a keen interest in the affairs of Turkey. Nothing has yet commanded such universal and heartfelt sympathy from the Mussalmans of India on any previous occasion as do the Turks at the present time. The outbreak of the Russo-Turkish war has called into existence daily newspapers in many cities, which publish latest

telegraphic news and find a most ready sale in the bazar at the rate of one pice a copy. Crowds of men throng the printing-offices, each man eager to get the first copy struck off by the press. This is indeed the first occasion in the annals of India which has called forth such enthusiasm and excitement among the Mussalmans. The amount of subscription is no true test of the extent of sympathy experienced by the Mussalmans of India for the Turks. Undoubtedly in the civilized countries of Europe the state of public feeling may be judged from the amount of subscription raised on any occasion, and *vice versa*. But civilization has not yet attained to that high pitch in this country. If such arrangements for the collecting of subscriptions could be made in India as prevail in the civilised countries of Europe, thousands of men would contribute more than they could conveniently spare. If Mussalmans knew that they could raise subscriptions for supplying the Turks with arms and ammunition, and that the money could reach Turkey in time to be devoted to that purpose, they would speedily show how deeply they sympathized with the Turks. The Mussalmans of India believe that, being subject to the English Government, they cannot assist the Porte against Russia, which is not at enmity with the English power, and that the English Government on the ground of international law will never permit them to do so. In this belief they have given no practical effect to their sympathy. Hitherto they have yielded only to the feeling of humanity which prompts them to render relief to the wounded soldiers, widows, and orphans. Even natives themselves did not know till now that there existed such a strong sympathy between the Mussalmans of India and the Turks. No one will be justified in hiding this matter from the Government. It is our imperative duty to set this fact in its full light before the Government. The amount of subscription, collected in India for the relief of the Turks, as given in the *Pioneer*, is indeed very small. We cannot but suspect that some error has crept into the statement of subscriptions. No less than fifteen

thousand rupees have been raised in Aligarh alone, a comparatively small district.

The same paper publishes an Urdu version of an editorial of the *Akhbar-ul-Jawâib* (a paper published in Constantinople) which shows by historical references that the English power has always assisted the Porte against foreign invaders and internal foes, and also has sought to preserve all Muhammadan kingdoms and principalities in general. The English Government has assisted the Amirs of Cabul and Kashgarh, and tried to effect a reconciliation between them. Russia is the arch-enemy of Islam, and always keeps her mouth wide open to swallow Muhammadan kingdoms. The Amir of Cabul is now likely to fall a victim to Russian intrigue.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette*, in reference to the above article, remarks that since the Turks think so highly of the English power, it is incumbent upon the Mussalmans of India to repose entire confidence in the English Government and look upon it as the friend of Islam.

(Three daily papers have lately been started in the upper provinces, one at Allahabad, one at Meerut, and one at Delhi. They publish Urdu translations of European telegraphic news relating to the Russo-Turkish war, and are sold at the rate of one pice a copy).

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation,
212 copies.

A correspondent of the *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 26th May, points out the need of a strict check being exercised over the work of the patwaris. The patwaris are a set of unscrupulous and dishonest persons at whose entire mercy the ignorant cultivators are placed. For the last two years tahsildars have been relieved of judicial work that they might have greater time to devote to checking the work of patwaris, but they have as yet shown no disposition to part with the comfort of working in court and to travel into the country, examining the

records of patwaris. Thus the introduction of the Panjab judicial scheme has merely burdened the finances with additional charges without producing the good results which were expected to accrue from it. A circular should be issued from the office of the Financial Commissioner making it compulsory on the part of tahsildars to go on tour for the purpose of examining the records of patwaris, and to submit their remarks on the results of that examination to the Deputy Commissioner. In each district an Extra Assistant Commissioner also, well versed in revenue matters, should examine the records of patwaris in the cold season. The Deputy Commissioner should hold a public meeting at the end of each year to recognise the services of honest patwaris. Those patwaris who have behaved themselves with honesty during the last year without attempting to practise any fraud or deceit should receive suitable rewards and certificates on this occasion. When a patwari dies, and the question of appointing his son as his successor arises, the conduct of the deceased should be taken into consideration.

The same paper, in its local news columns, states that the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar has introduced the practice that each executive officer of the district should take up all criminal cases of the district for three months by turn, and during that time he would be wholly relieved of all civil work. Accordingly Faqir Jamal-ud-din has been entrusted with the whole criminal work of the district for three months, and all civil suits filed in his court have been transferred to other courts. The working of this system, as it involves frequent transfers of cases from one court to another, will delay the decision of cases and will thus be productive of great inconvenience to suitors.

A correspondent of the *Agra Akhbâr* of the 24th May, referring to the resolution said to be recorded by the local Government of Bengal, for weeding the judicial and executive services of officers of low birth (vide the *Selections* for the week ending the 12th May, 1877, page 327), says that the

Circulation,
3277 copies

English Government is altogether free from faults. Indeed, men have hitherto found fault with it for observing no distinction between the respectable and low classes. But the resolution above adverted to will remove this only existing ground of complaint. The conduct of high officials, native and European, belonging to the lower grades of the society, is not at all respectful towards the respectable classes. Therefore the exclusion of men of low birth from the judicial and executive services will also tend towards encouraging a friendly intercourse between Europeans and natives. The practice initiated by Bengal should be extended to the whole of India.

Circulation,
90 copies.

A correspondent of the *Naiari Azam* of the 11th April says that corruption and bribery will never cease to exist, until the law exempts from punishment the party that gives a bribe. Since the existing law provides punishment for the party that gives a bribe as well as for the party that takes a bribe, it is difficult to prove a charge of bribery against the taker.

Circulation,
130 copies.

The *Urdu Akhbar* (published in Mahrati at Akola) of the 26th May urges upon the Government the need of establishing a school of industry and art in every district.

Circulation,
175 copies.

The *Vrita Dhara* of the 28th May says that corn is indispensably necessary for the support of human life. But owing to several reasons agriculture is growing out of favour with the ryots in India. The soil has fallen off in productive qualities. The fall of rain has unfortunately also become uncertain and scanty. The Government exacts a large portion of the produce from the cultivator. Cultivation has thus ceased to be sufficiently remunerative, and men are commonly believed to be abandoning it in large numbers. If this state of things continues, it is hard to guess how much misery the neglect of agriculture will produce in the country. The Government has established various departments, as the judicial, the police, the municipal, &c., for the protection of life and property, but a thing like the agriculture department

is unknown. The Government should indeed adopt measures for improving agriculture, and a scheme involving no extra expenditure should be devised for the purpose. Small treatises on agriculture may be included in the school curriculum. Teachers may be directed to go out now and then into the country and lecture cultivators on the methods of improving the growth of corn. Similarly, patwaris also may be entrusted with the same task.

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The Rahbari Hind of the 29th May refers to several recent instances of theft and robbery at Lahore and takes the local police to task for neglect of duty. The prevalence of gambling in the city is also due to the connivance of the native subordinate police officers who are accustomed to receive monthly allowances from the owners of gambling-houses. If the superintendent of police will occasionally wander about in the city in disguise, he will at once discover the illegal proceedings of his subordinates. In fact the native police officers of Lahore should be transferred to other districts and should be succeeded by better and more experienced men.

Circulation,
450 copies.

The Mutla'-Nur of the 29th May, in its columns of extracts from newspapers, says that Mr. Johnston, Assistant Collector and Magistrate, Ratnagiri (Bombay Presidency), has killed a native. The particulars are as follows :—Some goats used to frequent Mr. Johnston's garden, and he was, therefore, waiting for an opportunity to kill them. He mistook the deceased for a goat and killed him. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Government, an enquiry was made as usual, and the accused had to pay the family of the deceased the usual compensation.

Circulation,
50 copies.

EDUCATION.

A correspondent of the *Anjuman-i-Panjab* of the 25th May urges that the education department of the Panjab should be relieved of the task of holding the middle school examination. The Panjab university should be entrusted with this task.

Circulation,
410 copies.

Circulation,
220 copies.

POST OFFICE.
The *Safir-i-Hindustan* of the 26th May, on the authority of a correspondent, complains that the Gugara and Depalpur dāk takes about sixty-two hours in reaching Amritsar. Gugara and Depalpur are two tahsils of the Montgomery district (Panjab), situated about 124 miles from Amritsar, and the railway extends to within twelve miles of the two tahsils. The dāk is said to be delayed for full forty-eight hours by the railway. The Government should see that satisfactory arrangements are made by the postal departement for the speedy despatch of the dāk.

Circulation,
325 copies.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A correspondent of the *Panjabi Akhbār* of the 26th May ascribes the poverty of India to the decay of trade and art in the country, which has attended the establishment of schools and colleges. The Government established these literary institutions in every part of the country in the hope that native children after receiving an intellectual education would turn it to account in pursuing the trade or profession of their parents. But the effect has been just the reverse. Native students after leaving the school turn to Government service, as the sole means of earning their livelihood and despise the pursuit of any trade. If natives continue to neglect encouraging and developing the industrial arts and manufactures, their condition will become worse than it is at present, and even the remnants of their wealth will pass into the hands of foreigners.

Circulation,
70 copies.

The *Tajul Akhbār*, Rampur, of the 24th May, expresses regret that natives, although they have been long subject to the rule of a civilised nation, have not yet been able to wipe off the imputation of barbarism. Some of our countrymen have indeed received the title of Councillor of the Empress at the late Delhi darbar in consideration of their rank or personal merits, but, as a nation, we are still looked upon as a half civilised people. Now it is our earnest prayer to Heaven that we should cease to be barbarians any longer. Our actual condition on

a close examination seems to be far from desirable. It is incumbent upon us to discard our old customs and manners and imitate the conduct of our civilised rulers who, though they are not in the habit of holding frequent consultations, are always actuated by sympathy for their own countrymen and by jealousy towards us. As soon as Englishmen see anything detrimental to their interests, they at once find out means to remedy it. But our condition is really deplorable, because we are quite helpless in the matter. Sometimes it happens that an officer passes a sentence of punishment on the accused, and goes on gradually increasing the punishment three or four times, if the accused protests his innocence or begs for mercy. This is nothing but the result of the jealousy and discord that prevail among us. Did unity exist among us, we could easily remove any evil. If any officer renders mischief to any of us we must combine together and complain to his superior against his conduct. The writer then urges upon natives the importance of unity.

A correspondent of the *Kavi Vachan Sudha* of the 28th May, in a letter communicated to the editor, writes :—I beg to draw the attention of the public through your esteemed paper to the fact that the language of the *Behar Hindi Gazette* is by no means good. It is, on the whole, very confused and unintelligible, and hence there is all probability of its not attaining the object for which the Government has sanctioned its publication in Hindi at Patna. I beg to quote here, for instance, some sections from the *Calcutta Government Gazette*, and their translations from the *Behar Hindi Gazette*, by the perusal of which it will be evident that the translations are in no way even passable. The writer then publishes some sections of the Indian Contract Act and their Hindi translations as published in the *Behar Hindi Gazette*, showing in each case in what way the latter are faulty. He also gives his own translations of those very sections by way of contrast. He also points out some mistakes of grammar and idiom made by the editor of the *Behar Hindi Gazette* in rendering Government orders and notifications into Hindi.

Circulation,
300 copies.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.
1	Agra Akhbār	Agra	Urdū	Weekly	May 24th, 1877.
2	Akhhār-i-'Am	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	" 30th "
3	Akhhār-i-Tamannai	Lucknow	Ditto	Bi-monthly	June 1st "
4	Akhhār-ul-Akhhār	Ditto	Ditto	Tri-monthly	May 28th, 1877.
5	Akmal-ul-Akhhār	Delhi	Ditto	Weekly	" 27th "
6	Aligarh Institute Gazette	Aligarh	Urdū-English	Ditto	" 25th "
7	Allahabad Akhbār	Allahabad	Urdū	Daily	" 14th May to 2nd June, 1877.
8	Anjuman-i-Hind	Lucknow	Ditto	Weekly	May 26th, 1877.
9	Anjuman-i-Panjāb	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	" 25th "
10	Ashraf-ul-Akhhār	Delhi	Ditto	Tri-monthly	June 1st "
11	Benares Akhbār	Benares	Hindī	Weekly	May 31st "
12	Diadaba-i-Sikandari	Rampur	Urdū	Ditto	" 28th "
13	Gwahior Gazette	Gwahior	Hindī-Urdū	Ditto	" 27th "
14	Jaipur Akhbār (Rājputana)	Jaipur	Urdū	Ditto	" 25th "
15	Kārnāmā	Lucknow	Ditto	Ditto	" 28th "
16	Kavi Vachan Sudha	Benares	Hindī	Ditto	" 29th "
17	Khair Khwāh-i-Alam	Delhi	Urdū	Ditto	" 24th "
18	Khair Khwāh-i-Hind	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	" 26th "
19	Khair Khwāh-i-Panjāb	Gufranwālā	Ditto	Bi-monthly	" 26th "
20	Koh-i-Nūr	Lahore	Ditto	Weekly	May 6th & 13th, 1877.
21	Lama-i-Nūr	Jaunpur	Ditto	Ditto	May 26th, 1877.
22	Lugh-i-Mahfur	Moradabad	Ditto	Ditto	" 29th "
23	Lawrence Gazette	Meerut	Ditto	Ditto	For April, 1877.
24	Makhzan-ul-Ulum	Bareilly	Ditto	Monthly	

25	Márwár Gazette	...	...	Jodhpur	...	Hindí-Urdú	...	Weekly	...	May 21st
26	Mufid-i-Hind ...	...	...	Delhi	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	24th
27	Muhib-i-Hind ...	...	...	Meerut	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	26th
28	Mumba-ul-Ahkam	...	...	Lucknow	...	Ditto	...	Bi-monthly	...	14th
29	Mutlá-i-Núr ...	...	...	Cawnpore	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	29th
30	Muzaffarnagar Institute Gazette	...	...	Muzaffarnagar	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	25th
31	Naiar-i-Azam ...	...	...	Moradabad	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	14th and 28th March, 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th April and 23rd May.
32	Najm-ul-Akbbár	...	...	Meerut	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	May 24th, 1877.
33	Nizam-ul-Akbbár	...	...	Delhi	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	28th
34	Núr-i-Afshan ...	...	...	Ludhiana	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	31st
35	Núr-ul-Anwar ...	...	...	Cawnpore	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	26th
36	Oudh Akbbár ...	...	...	Lucknow	...	Ditto	...	Daily	...	27th and 30th May and 1st June.
37	Oudh Punch ...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	May 29th, 1877.
38	Panjáb-i-Akbbár	...	...	Lahore	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	26th
39	Patiála Akbbár ...	...	...	Patiala	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	28th
40	Prince of Wales' Gazette	...	...	Meerut	...	Hindí-Urdú-English	...	Ditto	...	"
41	Qaisar-ul-Akbbár	...	...	Allahabad	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	"
42	Rahbar-i-Hind ...	...	...	Lahore	...	Ditto	...	Bi-weekly	...	26th and 29th May, 1877.
43	Riaz-ul-Akbbár ...	...	...	Khairabad	...	Ditto	...	Tri-monthly	...	May 26th, 1877.
44	Rohilkhand Akbbár	...	...	Moradabad	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	" 26th
45	Rozanah Najmul Akbbár	...	...	Meerut	...	Ditto	...	Daily	...	June 1st & 2nd
46	Roznamah Jang	...	...	Delhi	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	May 14th to 2nd June, 1877.
47	Sádiq-ul-Akbbár	...	...	Bhawulpur	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	May 28th, 1877.
48	Safir-i-Bodhāna	...	...	Muzaffarnagar	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	" 23rd
49	Safir-i-Hind ...	...	...	Delhi	...	Ditto	...	Bi-monthly	...	" 31st
50	Safir-i-Hindustan	...	...	Amritsar	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	" 26th
51	Shola-i-Túr	...	...	Cawnpore	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	" 29th
52	Taj-ul-Akbbar ...	...	...	Rámpur	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	" 24th

List of papers examined—(concluded).

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.
53	Tohfah-i-Kashmir	...	Urdú	Weekly	May 26th, 1877.
54	Umdat-ul-Akhbār	...	Ditto	Ditto	" 28rd "
55	Urdú Akhbār	...	Mahrathi	Ditto	" 26th "
56	Urdú Akhbār (Akola)	...	Urdú	Ditto	" " "
57	Vakil-i-Hindustán	...	Ditto	Ditto	" " "
58	Vrit Dhadrá	...	Mahrathi	Ditto	" 28th "

PRIYA DAS,
Off. Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.